



**TOWN OF LOS GATOS  
COUNCIL POLICY COMMITTEE REPORT**

MEETING DATE: 10/27/2020

ITEM NO: 2

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DATE: October 20, 2020  
TO: Council Policy Committee  
FROM: Laurel Prevetti, Town Manager  
SUBJECT: Discuss and Provide Direction to Staff on Oak Meadow Park Bandstand Use

**RECOMMENDATION:**

Allow for future private reservations of the Oak Meadow Park bandstand.

**BACKGROUND:**

Section F of the Town's Facility Use Policy (Attachment 1) identifies appropriate uses for Oak Meadow Park. Included within the policy is the following language:

"...Oak Meadow Park ... shall be used as a location for free gatherings that are open to the public."

"4. Private events (outside of Town designated reservable spaces) and fee for entrance events are not allowed. "

When the Facility Use Policy was last revised, the Council identified the bandstand as a location that would remain free and open to the public.

**DISCUSSION:**

The Oak Meadow bandstand typically remains unprogrammed for much of the year. Although the bandstand is an iconic feature of the park, the space around the bandstand does not lend itself to programming and the language in the Facility Use Policy further limits the use.

In 2018, a team from the Los Gatos Community Foundation and local architect Cuschieri Horton (working pro bono), with oversight of Parks and Public Works staff, developed a plan (Attachment 2) for future improvements to the bandstand to improve the Town's ability to

**PREPARED BY:** Matt Morley  
Parks and Public Works Director

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Reviewed by: Town Manager, Assistant Town Manager, and Town Attorney

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DISCUSSION (continued):

program the space. The plan has not been advanced due to the cost of the project, estimated at \$215,000 in 2018, and competing funding priorities.

In 2018, California voters passed Proposition 68, which allocated funds for park improvements statewide. Included in the measure were formulaic appropriations to each jurisdiction for improvements to parks focused on construction of new amenities. The Town's formulaic appropriation is \$177,952. In addition, there may be an opportunity to partner with Monte Sereno with an allocation amount equal to the Town's.

The bandstand improvement project could create a venue for ongoing programming, including small cultural gatherings, weddings, music performances, and other events. Depending on the success of the program, this could bring additional revenue to the Town. Comparable outdoor venue rent runs between \$300 and \$1,000 for a two-hour reservation, often with discounts for residents. Staff envisions issuing simple Park Use Permits for the space in most situations. These permits would allow for rentals similar to the current process for reserving picnic spaces.

CONCLUSION:

If the Policy Committee supports the direction, staff will revise the Town's Facility Use Policy for Town Council consideration. Applications for the Proposition 68 grant program are due between now and December 2021, with construction completion required by December 2023. This aligns with planning for the FY 2021-22 Capital Improvement Program Budgeting process and coordination with the State for project eligibility.

COORDINATION:

The Parks Commission reviewed the potential project at their October 1, 2020 meeting and supported the idea.

FISCAL IMPACT:

There is not a fiscal impact associated with this item.

ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT:

This is not a project defined under CEQA, and no further action is required.

Attachments:

1. Facility Use Policy
2. Bandstand Improvement Project Conceptual Plan